UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.241/19/Rev.1
11 April 1994

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR
THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Fifth Session
Paris, 6-17 June 1994
Agenda item 2

ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Final Negotiating Text of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa

Note by the Secretariat

Attached is a Final Negotiating Text of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa. It reflects discussion in Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (INCD), through the end of the Committee's fourth session.

GE.94-61051

REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ANNEX FOR AFRICA

Article 1

Scope

This Annex applies to Africa, in relation to each Party and in conformity with Article 7 and other relevant provisions of the Convention for the purpose of combatting desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought in its arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas.

Article 2

Purpose

The purpose of the present Annex at the national, sub-regional and regional levels in Africa, in the light of the particular conditions of Africa, is to:

(a) identify measures and arrangements, including the nature and processes of assistance [to] [that may] be provided by developed country Parties;

(b) provide for the efficient and practical implementation of the Convention to address conditions specific to Africa; and

(c) promote processes and activities related to combatting desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought within the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas of Africa.

Article 3

Particular conditions of the African region

In carrying out their obligations pursuant to the provisions of the Convention, the Parties shall, in the implementation of this Annex, adopt a basic approach that takes into consideration the following particular conditions of Africa:

(a) the large proportion of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas;

(b) the significant number of countries and substantial populations adversely affected by desertification and by the frequent recurrence of severe drought;

(c) the large number of landlocked affected countries;

(d) the widespread poverty prevalent in most affected countries and the significant number of least developed countries among them, and their need for significant amounts of external assistance, in the form of grants and loans on concessional terms, to pursue their development objectives;

(e) the difficult socio-economic conditions exacerbated by deteriorating and fluctuating terms of trade, external indebtedness and political instability, which induce internal, regional and international migrations;

(f) the heavy reliance of populations on natural resources for subsistence which, compounded by the effects of demographic

trends and factors, a weak technological base and unsustainable production practices, contributes to serious resource degradation;

(g) the insufficient institutional and legal frameworks, the weak infrastructure base and the insufficient scientific, technical and educational capacity leading to substantial capacity-building requirements; and

(h) the central role of actions to combat desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought in the national development priorities of affected African countries.

[Article 4

Commitments and obligations of African country Parties

1. In accordance with their respective capacities, African country Parties [undertake] [shall aim] to:

(a) adopt combatting desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought as their central strategy in their effort to eradicate poverty;

(b) promote regional cooperation and integration, in a spirit of solidarity and partnership based on mutual interest, in the programmes and activities to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought;

(c) rationalize and strengthen existing institutions dealing with desertification and drought and involve other existing institutions as appropriate in order to make them more effective and ensure efficient use of resources;

(d) promote the exchange of information on appropriate technologies, technical know-how and experiences between and among the countries of the region; and

(e) develop contingency plans for mitigating the effects of drought affecting the areas degraded by desertification and/or drought.

2. In accordance with the general and specific obligations respectively set out in Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention, affected African country Parties shall [aim to]:

(a) make appropriate financial allocations from their national budgets consistent with national conditions and capabilities and reflecting the new priorities Africa has accorded to the phenomenon of desertification and/or drought within the context of the Convention;

(b) sustain and strengthen reforms currently in progress toward greater decentralization, resource tenure as well as reinforcing popular participation; and

(c) identify and mobilize new and additional national financial resources, and expand, as a matter of priority, the existing national capabilities and facilities to mobilize domestic financial resources.]

[Article 5

Commitments and obligations of developed country Parties

1. In fulfilling their obligations in accordance with Articles 4,6 and 7 of the Convention, developed country Parties shall give priority to affected African country Parties and [, in this context,] shall:

[(a) adopt poverty eradication as a central strategy in their efforts to assist affected African country Parties to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought;

(b) provide new and additional financial resources, to enable the affected African country Parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention and this Annex;

(ALTERNATIVE TO (a) and (b))
[(a) assist, in accordance with national policies, affected African country Parties to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought including by facilitating access to financial and/or other resources, and fulfill their obligations under the Convention and this Annex, including their adoption of poverty eradication as a strategy under Article 4, Paragraph 1 (c) of the convention.]

[(c) allocate a higher percentage of the overall assistance to most affected African countries bearing in mind the provisions of Agenda 21 on the commitment of the international community to attain the target of allocating 0.7 per cent of Gross National Product to Official Development Assistance;]

(d) promote, facilitate and finance the adaptation and access to environmentally appropriate technologies and know-how of affected African country Parties in order to enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention and the Annex;

(ALTERNATIVE TO (d))
[(b) promote, facilitate, finance and/or facilitate the financing of the adaptation and access to environmentally appropriate technologies and know-how of affected African country Parties, on mutually agreed terms and in accordance with national legislation and/or policies, in order to help enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention and this Annex;]

(e) cooperate with affected African country Parties in the fields of scientific research and development, and information collection and dissemination, to ensure that affected African country Parties needing assistance are in a position to implement their long-term strategies to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought;]

(ALTERNATIVE TO (e))
[(c) cooperate with affected African country Parties in the fields of scientific research and development and information collection and dissemination, to support affected African country Parties in their implementation of strategies to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought;]

2. Other country Parties [could] [may] provide, on a voluntary basis, knowledge, know-how and techniques related to desertification and/or financial resources, to affected African country Parties. The transfer of

such knowledge, know-how and techniques [shall] [may] be facilitated by international cooperation.]

Article 6

Strategic planning framework for sustainable development

1. National action programmes shall be a central and integral part of a broader process of formulating national policies for sustainable development of affected African country Parties.

2. A consultative and participatory process involving appropriate levels of government, local communities and non-governmental organizations shall be undertaken to provide guidance on a strategy with flexible planning to allow maximum participation from local communities. As appropriate, bilateral and multilateral assistance agencies may be involved in this process at the request of an affected African country Party.

[Article 7

Timetable for preparation of action programmes

African country Parties, in cooperation with other members of the international community as appropriate, shall finalize [, in the context of a prompt start,] the preparation of national, sub-regional and regional action programmes [after the adoption of the Convention.]

Article 8

Content of national action programmes

1. Consistent with Articles 10 of the Convention, the overall strategy of national action programmes shall feature integrated local development programmes for affected areas, based on participatory mechanisms and on integration of strategies for poverty eradication into efforts to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. The programmes shall aim at strengthening the capacity of local authorities and ensuring the active involvement of local communities and groups, with emphasis on education and training, mobilization of non-governmental organizations with proven expertise and strengthening of decentralized governmental structures.

2. National action programmes shall, as appropriate:

(a) general features:

(i) be developed and implemented based on past experiences in combatting desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought, taking into account the social, economic and ecological conditions existing in the respective countries;

(ii) identify the factors contributing to desertification and/or drought and the resources and capacities available and required, and set up appropriate policies and institutional as well as other responses and measures necessary to combat those phenomena and/or mitigate their effects; and

(iii) increase the participation of local populations and communities, including women, farmers and pastoralists, and delegate to them more responsibility for management;

(b) measures to improve the economic environment with a view to eradicating poverty:

(i) increase incomes and employment opportunities, especially for the poorest members of the community, by: a) developing markets for farm and livestock products; b) creating financial instruments suited to local needs; c) encouraging diversification in agriculture and the setting-up of agricultural enterprises; d) developing economic activities of a para-agricultural or non-agricultural type;

(ii) improve long-term prospects for rural economies, by the creation of: a) incentives for productive investment and access to the means of production; b) price and tax policies and commercial practices favourable to growth;

(iii) define and apply population migration policies to reduce population pressure on land; and

(iv) promote drought-resistant crops and integrated dry-land farming systems for food security purposes.

(c) measures to conserve natural resources:

(i) ensure integrated and sustainable management of natural resources, including: a) agricultural land and pastoral land; b) vegetation cover and wildlife; c) forests; d) water resources and conservation; and e) biological diversity;

(ii) provide training in and strengthen public awareness and environmental education campaigns and diffusion of knowledge of techniques of sustainable management of natural resources; and

(iii) ensure development and efficient use of various energy sources, promotion of alternative sources of energy, particularly, solar energy, wind energy and bio-gas, and specific arrangements for the transfer, acquisition and adaptation of relevant technology to alleviate the pressure on fragile natural resources;

(d) measures to improve institutional organization:

(i) define the roles and responsibilities of central government and local authorities, respectively, in the framework of a land-use planning policy;

(ii) encourage a policy of active decentralization, devolving responsibility for management and decision-making to local authorities, and encourage initiatives and the assumption of responsibility by local communities and the establishment of local structures; and

(iii) adjust, as appropriate, the institutional and regulatory framework of natural resource management to provide security of land tenure of local population;

(e) measures to improve knowledge of desertification:

(i) promote research as well as collection, processing and exchange of information on the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects and factors of desertification;

(ii) improve national capabilities in research as well as collection, processing, exchange and analysis of information, so as to achieve better understanding and to translate the analysis into operational terms; and

(iii) encourage the medium and long-term study of: a) socio-economic and cultural trends in the affected regions, b) qualitative and quantitative trends in natural resources, c) the interaction between climate and desertification; and

(f) measures to monitor and assess the effects of drought:

(i) develop strategies to evaluate the impacts of natural climate variability on regional drought and desertification, and/or utilize predictions of climate variability on seasonal to interannual time-scales in efforts to mitigate the effects of drought;

(ii) improve early-warning and response capacity, efficient management of emergency relief and food aid, and improvement of food stocking and distribution systems, cattle protection schemes and public works and alternative livelihoods for drought prone areas; and

(iii) monitor and assess ecological degradation to provide reliable and timely information on the process and dynamics of the resource degradation in order to inform on and facilitate better policy formulations and responses.

Article 9

Preparation of national action programmes and implementation and evaluation indicators

Each affected African country Party shall designate an appropriate body to function as a catalyst in the preparation of its national action programme. This body, in accordance with Article 3 of this Annex, shall, as appropriate:

(a) undertake a review and identification of actions, beginning with locally driven consultation processes, involving local communities and with the cooperation of local administrative authorities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on the basis of initial consultations of those parties concerned at the national level;

(b) identify and analyze the constraints, needs and gaps affecting development and land-use and recommend practical measures to avoid duplication of effort and promote implementation of results;

(c) facilitate, design and formulate project activities based on interactive, flexible approaches in order to ensure active participation of populations of affected areas and minimum negative impact of activities;

(d) establish readily verifiable indicators for the assessment of the implementation and evaluation of:

(i) national action programmes which [shall] [may] be divided into short, medium and long-terms actions according to the following time-frame as from the entry into force of the Convention:

a) short-term measures and programmes up to five years;

b) medium-term measures and programmes between five to ten years; and

c) long-term measures and programmes of over ten years.

(ii) evaluation indicators of national action programme which [shall] [may] include:

a) quantifiable indicators such as: proportion of the national budget and resources allocated, indicators of human development, natural resources conditions, and existing national capacities and capabilities; and

b) non-quantifiable indicators.

(e) translate the information obtained into technical and financial programmes;

(f) bring about a participatory process between government and all Parties concerned at the national level and, following this process;

(g) organize a consultative process between the national government, its constituent parts, interested groups and interested donor Parties with the aim of achieving a common understanding of:

(i) the basic elements of the national action programmes, including legal, financial, policy and institutional matters at the national level;

(ii) choices to be made in terms of priorities and agreement on implementation and evaluation indicators; and

[(iii) funding arrangements to be established for implementation.]

Article 10

Organizational framework of sub-regional action programmes

1. In accordance with Article 4 of the Convention, African country Parties [shall] [may] cooperate in the preparation and implementation of sub-regional action programmes for Central, Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Africa and, in this regard, may delegate responsibilities to relevant sub-regional intergovernmental organizations including:

(a) acting as focal points for preparatory activities and coordinating the implementation of the sub-regional action programmes;

(b) assisting in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes on the request of affected African country Parties;

(c) facilitating the exchange of information, experience and know-how as well as providing advice on review of national legislation where requested by affected African country Parties; and

(d) any other responsibilities relating to the implementation of sub-regional action programmes, as appropriate.

2. Specialized sub-regional institutions may provide support, where requested, and/or be entrusted with the responsibility to coordinate activities in their fields of competence.

Article 11

Content of sub-regional action programmes

Sub-regional action programmes shall focus on issues that are better addressed within their respective sub-regional frameworks. Sub-regional action programmes shall establish [the] [, where] necessary mechanisms for the management of shared natural resources. In addition, such mechanisms shall effectively handle transboundary problems associated with desertification and/or drought and shall provide support for the harmonious implementation of national action programmes. Priority areas for sub-regional action programmes, shall, as appropriate, focus on the following:

(a) joint programmes for the sustainable management, through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, as appropriate, of transboundary natural resources;

(b) coordination of programmes to develop alternative energy sources;

(c) cooperation in the management and control of pests as well as plant and animal diseases;

(d) capacity-building, education and public awareness activities better carried out or supported at the sub-regional level;

(e) scientific and technical cooperation, particularly in the climatological, meteorological and hydrological fields, including networking for data collection and assessment, information sharing and project monitoring, as well as coordination and prioritization of research and development activities;

(f) early-warning systems and joint planning for mitigating the effects of drought, including measures to address the problems resulting from environmentally induced migrations;

(g) exploration of ways of sharing experiences, particularly regarding popular participation, and the creation of an enabling environment for improved land-use management and use of appropriate technologies;

(h) strengthening of the capacity of sub-regional organizations to coordinate and to provide technical services, as well as the establishment, reorientation and strengthening of sub-regional centres and institutions; and

(i) development of policies in areas such as trade, which have impact upon affected areas and populations, including the coordination of regional marketing regimes and common infrastructure.

Article 12

Preparation of sub-regional action programmes

1. African country Parties [shall] [may] establish, in each sub-region, a consultative process, supported by a task force of relevant sub-regional institutions, to oversee the preparation of sub-regional action programmes. This process [shall] [may] include the assessment of successes and failures in past and current programmes, policies and agreements at the sub-regional level, and their relationship with national programmes.

2. This consultation process shall establish verifiable indicators for implementation and evaluation in coordination with interested groups and donors Parties.

[Article 13

Organizational framework for regional action programme

1. In preparing and implementing a regional action programme [in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention], African country Parties may delegate responsibilities to regional organizations. They shall jointly determine the procedures for drawing up the programme.

2. The Conference of the Parties [shall] [may recommend appropriate] [provide] [appropriate] support [with a view to ensuring that African regional organizations are in a position to fulfil the responsibilities entrusted to them by the Convention] [to the Organization of African Unity and other [African regional relevant] intergovernmental organizations, to enable them to undertake their obligations at the regional level within the framework of the Convention].]

[Article 14

Content of the regional action programme

The regional action programme [shall] [may] [may, as necessary,] include measures related to desertification and/or drought in the following priority areas:

(a) the sharing of experience among affected countries and sub-regions of Africa, and with other affected regions, particularly on institutional and legal reform, [technological know-how,] popular participation, integrated local programmes and land management;

[(b) the utilization and strengthening of continent-wide fora to:

(i) build regional consensus on key policy areas and coordinate actions at the sub-regional level, including through permanent consultations of sub-regional organizations;

(ii) ensure that continent-wide policies and initiatives give due priority to affected areas and to the participation of their populations in planning and decision-making; and

(iii) seek solutions with the international community to global economic issues, such as debt and trade, which impact affected areas; and]

(c) the reorientation and strengthening [, as necessary,] of regional centres and institutions to perform functions enhancing national and sub-regional programmes, particularly:

(i) [the promotion of] capacity building, education and public awareness activities better implemented at the regional level;

[(ii) the promotion of scientific and technological cooperation, particularly in the fields of meteorology, hydrology [and alternative energy sources], coordination of sub-regional research centres and establishment of regional priorities for [basic] research [development];]

(iii) coordination of networks for systematic observation and assessment and information exchange [, as well as their integration into world-wide networks]; and

[(iv) coordination and support of sub-regional early warning systems and drought contingency plans.]]

(ALTERNATIVE TO ARTICLES 13 AND 14)

[Article 14a

Regional coordination and cooperation

African country Parties shall each, in accordance with their respective capabilities, or by delegating responsibilities to regional organizations, engage in the following actions at the regional level:

(a) develop regional cooperation and coordinate sub-regional action programmes;

(b) improve the effectiveness and efficiency of existing natural resource management systems;

(c) seek solutions with the international community to global economic and social issues that impact affected areas;

(d) promote the exchange of information and appropriate techniques, technical know-how and relevant experience; promote scientific and technological cooperation; coordinate sub-regional and regional research activities; and establish regional priorities for research and development;

(e) coordinate networks for systematic observation and assessment and information exchange, as well as their integration into world-wide networks; and

(f) coordinate and reinforce sub-regional and regional early-warning systems and drought contingency plans.]

[Article 15

Strengthening of United Nations and other institutions

The Parties shall work together in the governing bodies of the United Nations [funds,] agencies [and programmes, [particularly in the context of Chapter 38 of Agenda 21], international financial institutions and other [regional and sub-regional] organizations active in Africa [to strengthen them with a view to ensuring they are in a position]] to assist African country Parties in implementing the Convention.]

(ALTERNATIVE ARTICLE 15)

[ARTICLE 15a

Support by the United Nations and other institutions

In accordance with Article 9 Paragraph 3 of the Convention, the Parties shall encourage organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations to support African country Parties in implementing the provisions of this Annex.]

(ALTERNATIVE ARTICLE 15)

[ARTICLE 15b

Strengthening of activities of United Nations and other institutions in the field of desertification and drought

The Parties shall work together to strengthen the activities to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations and, in accordance with Article

9 Paragraph 3 of the Convention, the Parties shall encourage organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations to support African country Parties in implementing the provisions of this Annex.]

[Article 16

Financial and technical cooperation

1. The Parties shall [adopt the necessary policies and mechanisms to give priority to Africa in the utilization of the special fund established pursuant to Article 22 of the Convention, and shall] give priority attention to Africa[n concerns in creating an enabling international environment pursuant to Article 4, sub-paragraph (2) (b) of the Convention] [in line with Article 7 of the Convention].

[2. Consistent with Article 20 of the Convention, the Parties which are also members of the governing body of the African Development Bank shall support the establishment of a special facility to enable the Bank to give higher priority to combatting desertification and mitigating the effects of drought.]

3. African affected country Parties and [developed] country Parties [in a position to provide assistance] shall assess the impact on the implementation of the Convention of all programmes of financial and technical cooperation [and , where necessary, rationalize and strengthen them. In doing so, the Parties shall consider issues such as levels of overhead and support costs, procedures for agreement on funding and the employment of national or other African experts in programme design and implementation.] [, and rationalize and strengthen them, inter alia, by ensuring that:

(a) the overhead and support costs of such programmes do not detract from their objectives, generally not exceeding twenty percent of total costs;

(b) standard, simplified procedures for funding are adopted; and

(c) national experts, or, where necessary, other African experts, are utilized on a priority basis in programme design and implementation.]

4. African affected country Parties shall inventory domestic financial resources, ensure they are used more effectively and provide a stable political environment and a macro-economic framework conducive to the mobilization of funds and to private investment. They shall set up policies and procedures to channel funds effectively to local development programmes, including through non-governmental organizations, as appropriate.

[5. The Parties may establish national desertification trust funds in affected countries needing assistance, involving national governments, donors and local non-governmental organizations. The objective is to identify priorities and facilitate rapid disbursement of funds form various sources to the community level.]

6. African country Parties shall rationalize and strengthen, as appropriate, sub-regional and regional organizations to ensure efficient use of existing resources [for their activities] [and to facilitate mobilization of additional resources. They shall reinforce the resource mobilization capacity of the Organization of African Unity to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought, including measures to make its special drought fund operational].

[7. [Developed] country Parties [in a position to provide assistance] shall allocate to African affected country Parties for implementing the Convention an increased percentage of their respective official development assistance envelopes and other forms of assistance.]]

(ALTERNATIVE ARTICLE 16. IT WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO THREE ARTICLES)

[Article 16a

Financial resources

1. The Parties undertake to adopt measures to facilitate mobilization of resources at all levels as follows:

(a) establish and/or strengthen appropriate macroeconomic frameworks and policies which shall include measures to promote economic growth and ensure equitable distribution of national resources;

(b) ensure more efficient mobilization, utilization and management of existing financial resources;

(c) rationalize and strengthen sub-regional organizations with a view to ensuring efficient use of existing resources;

(d) establish at regional level strategies to provide adequate focus on drought and desertification related programmes and activities;

(e) strengthen regional development banks and undertake a feasibility study for the establishment of a regional fund for drought and desertification;

(f) creation of an enabling international economic environment;

(g) mobilizing and making available on regular, timely and predictable basis, financial resources including new and additional resources for the effective implementation of this Annex;

(h) support the establishment of a regional fund for drought an desertification;

(i) identify gaps in resource allocation that should be implemented trough the transfer of technology; and

(j) utilization of multilateral mechanisms and the existing UNDP/UNEP joint ventures mechanisms;

(k) allocate to African country Parties and increased percentage of their respective official development assistance and other forms of assistance.

2. Recognizing the centrality of adequate financing for the implementation of the national, sub-regional and regional action programmes in this Annex, the parties undertake to provide financial resources, consistent with their capabilities, national plans, priorities and programmes. In this regard they agree to establish an inventory of sources of funding at the national, sub-regional, regional and international levels. The inventory shall be regularly reviewed and appended to this Annex.]

Article 16b

Financial Mechanisms

1. In compliance with the provisions of Article 7 of the Convention underscoring the priority attention for and particularly of Africa, the Parties hereby establish a Special Fund.

2. This special Fund shall provide African country Parties to the Convention with special resources as grant or loans on concessional basis. The Fund shall function under the authority and guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of Parties for purposes of this Annex. Parties to the Convention shall also provide, and the African country Parties avail themselves of financial resources related to the implementation of the Convention through bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels.

Article 16c

Technical Assistance and cooperation

The Parties undertake the implement the following measures to rationalize and strengthen technical assistance to and cooperation with African country Parties, inter alia by ensuring that:

(a) the cost of support measures and backstopping, especially overhead costs, do not adversely reduce the overall amount provided for technical assistance. In any case, such costs shall not exceed 20% of the total cost of the project;

(b) priority is given at all times to the utilization of national experts or, where necessary, at sub-regional and/or regional level in project design, preparation and implementation;

(c) effective management and coordination as well as the efficient utilization of technical assistance;

(d) standard, simplified procedures for funding are adopted.]

[Article 17

Transfer, acquisition, adaptation and access to environmentally appropriate technology

In implementing Article 20 of the Convention relating to transfer, acquisition and access to technology, the Parties undertake to give priority to African country Parties. In particular, the Parties shall ensure that local technology, knowledge, know-how and practices are adequately protected and that local populations benefit directly from any commercial utilization of or from any technological development derived thereof.]

Article 18

Coordination and partnership agreements

1. The African country Parties shall coordinate the preparation, negotiation and implementation of national and sub-regional action programmes. They may involve, as appropriate, other Parties and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in this process .

[2. [Any] Such coordination [shall] [should] [may] serve [to ascertain, and agree on, resource requirements, to mobilize financial

resources,] [to maximize the efficient use of resources and avoid duplication of efforts.] [,to ensure that financial and technical cooperation is consistent with the Convention and to provide the necessary continuity in the use and administration of resources.]

[3. The Secretariat [shall] [may], at the request of the affected African country Parties, assist in the convocation of a consultative group to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on each national, sub-regional action programme and specifying the contributions of the affected African country Parties and other members of the group to the programmes, and to serve as a forum for the negotiation and conclusion, by the parties concerned, of national partnership agreements. Participation in consultative groups shall be open to African country Parties of the sub-region, relevant sub-regional and regional organizations and other Parties as well as representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations. Members of each consultative group shall determine the modalities of its management and operation.]

[4. Pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention, donor Parties are encouraged to develop, on their own initiative, an informal process of consultation and coordination among them, at the country level, and, at the request of the national government, to participate in a national consultative process that would evaluate and respond to assistance needs in order to facilitate implementation.

5. It is expected that this consultative process will bring together governmental, non-governmental, bilateral and multilateral assistance organizations and the national unit responsible for coordination of the national action programme.]

Article 19

Follow-up arrangements

1. Follow-up of the provisions of this Annex shall be carried out by African country Parties in accordance with the relevant articles of the Convention as follows:

(a) at national level, by a mechanism whose composition should be determined by each affected African country Party. This mechanism shall include representatives of local communities and function under the supervision of the national body responsible for the coordination of activities;

(b) at the sub-regional level, by a multidisciplinary scientific and technical consultative committee whose composition and modalities of operation shall be determined by each sub-region;

(c) at the regional level, by mechanisms defined in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, and by and African Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, hereby established.

2. The national body responsible for coordinating activities shall, inter alia:

(a) identify and prioritize requirements for financial assistance and technical cooperation;

(b) monitor and evaluate the implementation of agreed national action programmes;

(c) prepare progress reports on the implementation of the national action programmes.

3. The sub-regional and regional bodies shall, inter alia:

(a) develop partnership agreements based on sub-regional action programmes;

(b) recommend appropriate adjustments to partnership agreements;

(c) monitor, evaluate and report on the implementation of the agreed sub-regional programmes;

(d) ensure efficient communication and cooperation among African country Parties.

* * * * * *